



## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**[Docket No.: ED-2022-SCC-0101]**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and approval; Comment Request; Application to Participate in Federal Student Financial Aid Programs (PEPS)**

**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a new collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting “Department of Education” under “Currently Under Review,” then check the “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox. Reginfo.gov provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the “View Information Collection (IC) List” link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the “View Supporting Statement and Other Documents” link.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Beth Grebeldinger, (202) 377-4018.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general

public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below. The Department is especially interested in public comments addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public record.

*Title of Collection:* Application to Participate in Federal Student Financial Aid Programs (PEPS)

*OMB Control Number:* 1845-NEW

*Type of Review:* New collection

*Respondents / Affected Public:* Private Sector; State, Local, and Tribal Governments

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 7,286

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 24,352

*Abstract:* The Department of Education (the Department) developed the Application for Approval to Participate in the Federal Student Financial Aid Programs to comply with statutory requirements of collecting necessary information under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. This new collection is a request to continue use of the version of the application that was last approved in 2019 under 1845-0012. That information

collection is undergoing clearance to reflect the revision of the information collection as the Department transitions to an electronic webform housed on the FSA Partner Connect system. The revision may not be ready for implementation by the current form expiration date of November 30, 2022. The Department is therefore requesting approval of the currently approved form/format in this new collection.

Dated: October 6, 2022.

**Kun Mullan,**

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*Strategic Collections and Clearance,*

*Governance and Strategy Division,*

*Office of Chief Data Officer,*

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